

CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A processor-readable storage medium comprising processor-executable instructions configured for:

receiving a request for information regarding a media object;

inferring the information from repeat instances of media objects occurring within one or more media streams; and

returning the information;

wherein the inferring comprises comparing temporal lengths of repeat instances of the media object with one another to determine different versions of the media object, wherein the different versions of the media object are video clips, the different versions of the media object selected from the group comprising:

a longest version of the media object;

a number of longer versions of the media object;

a shortest version of the media object; and

a number of shorter versions of the media object and

wherein the inferring further comprises determining a number of related media objects, wherein: (i) the related media objects are determined based on temporal proximities of media objects relative to the media object associated with the request, and (ii) the related media objects have a higher frequency of repeat instances relative to one another.

2. (Original) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the inferring comprises searching a database for the information, the database including media objects and records of repeat instances of the media objects.

3. (Original) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the inferring comprises:

- monitoring the one or more media streams;
- identifying the repeat instances; and
- storing records of the repeat instances in a database.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the inferring comprises matching a key word from the request with metadata extracted from a media object.

8. (Original) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the inferring comprises matching date and time information from the request with date and time information of a media object stored in a database.

9. (Original) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the inferring comprises limiting returned media objects based on constraints contained within the request.

10. (Original) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the inferring comprises identifying temporal endpoints of each repeat instance of the media object.

11. (Original) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 10, wherein the identifying is based on an identifier included in the request, the identifier selected from the group comprising:

a fingerprint of the media object; and

a time stamp and channel code associated with the media object.

12. (Original) A server computer comprising the processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1.

13-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

one or more processors; and

a processor-readable storage medium, executable on the one or more processors, and comprising processor-executable instructions configured for:

receiving a request for information regarding a media object;

inferring the information from repeat instances of media objects occurring within one or more media streams; and

returning the information;

wherein the inferring comprises comparing temporal lengths of repeat instances of the media object with one another to determine different versions of the media object, the different versions of the media object selected from the group comprising:

a longest version of the media object;

a number of longer versions of the media object;

a shortest version of the media object; and

a number of shorter versions of the media object and

wherein the inferring further comprises determining a number of related media objects, wherein: (i) the related media objects are determined based on temporal proximities of media objects relative to the media object associated with the request, and (ii) the related media objects have a higher frequency of repeat instances relative to one another.

22. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 21, wherein the inferring comprises searching a database for the information, the database including media objects and records of repeat instances of the media objects.

23. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 21, wherein the inferring comprises:

monitoring the one or more media streams;

identifying the repeat instances; and
storing records of the repeat instances in a database.

24. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 21, wherein the inferring comprises determining a number of related media objects, the related media objects occurring within a close temporal proximity of the media object with a higher frequency of repeat instances relative to one another.

25. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 21, wherein the inferring comprises matching a key word from the request with metadata extracted from a media object.

26. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 21, wherein the inferring comprises matching date and time information from the request with date and time information of a media object stored in a database.

27. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 21, wherein the inferring comprises limiting returned media objects based on constraints contained within the request.